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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The application for permission to organize the Nationalist Students' Group was presented to the North Vietnam Government under the auspices of the Pacification Service 25X1
2. The aims of this organization are as follows:
 - a. Support the nationalist government.
 - b. Fight the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV) Students' Movement.
 - c. Improve the moral philosophy of the students.
 - d. Material assistance for poor students.
3. The founder of this group was Pham Nhu Cuong, originally from Ha Dong, and the son of Pham Nhu Kim and Nguyen Thi Tho. Cuong's present address is No. 8 rue Le Thanh Ton, Hanoi. Before 1945, Cuong was a student at the Lycee Albert Sarraut. In 1945, after the Japanese coup d'état, Cuong petitioned for admission to the Vietnamese lycee, Chu Van An. After the 19 December 1946 uprising, Cuong went to live in his native village in Thanh Oai District, Ha Dong Province. Cuong rallied in August 1947, and was admitted to the bacalaureate preparatory class of Chu Van An Lycee. He later clandestinely joined the DRV Students' Movement, but was arrested by the Cong An of North Vietnam on 11 August 1950. Cuong was released one week later, and worked clandestinely for the Cong An until January 1951, with his friend, Le Huy Nhu.
4. After receiving the group's application for organization, the North Vietnam Government requested the advice of the interested services. The Services of Education and of Youth, as well as the Association of Students' Parents, expressed unfavorable opinions concerning the formation of the Nationalist Students' Group. In general, their arguments were the following:

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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- a. The formation of this organization would duplicate the Scholastic Organization (Hien Doan).
 - b. Considering the youth of the students, there would be a danger of their becoming involved in politics.
 - c. Legal shortcomings.
5. Cuong continues to be encouraged in his efforts by the Pacification Service. He requested and obtained permission to hold a meeting of students in the townhall [redacted] Because so few students arrived for the meeting, it was not held. 25X1 The organization is now at a stand-still partly because of the term examinations and the summer vacation.
6. Pham Nhu Cuong has contacted several important persons and one political party, the Vietnam Quoc Dan Dang. These contacts have not, however, achieved results which could be definitely useful to Cuong. 25X1

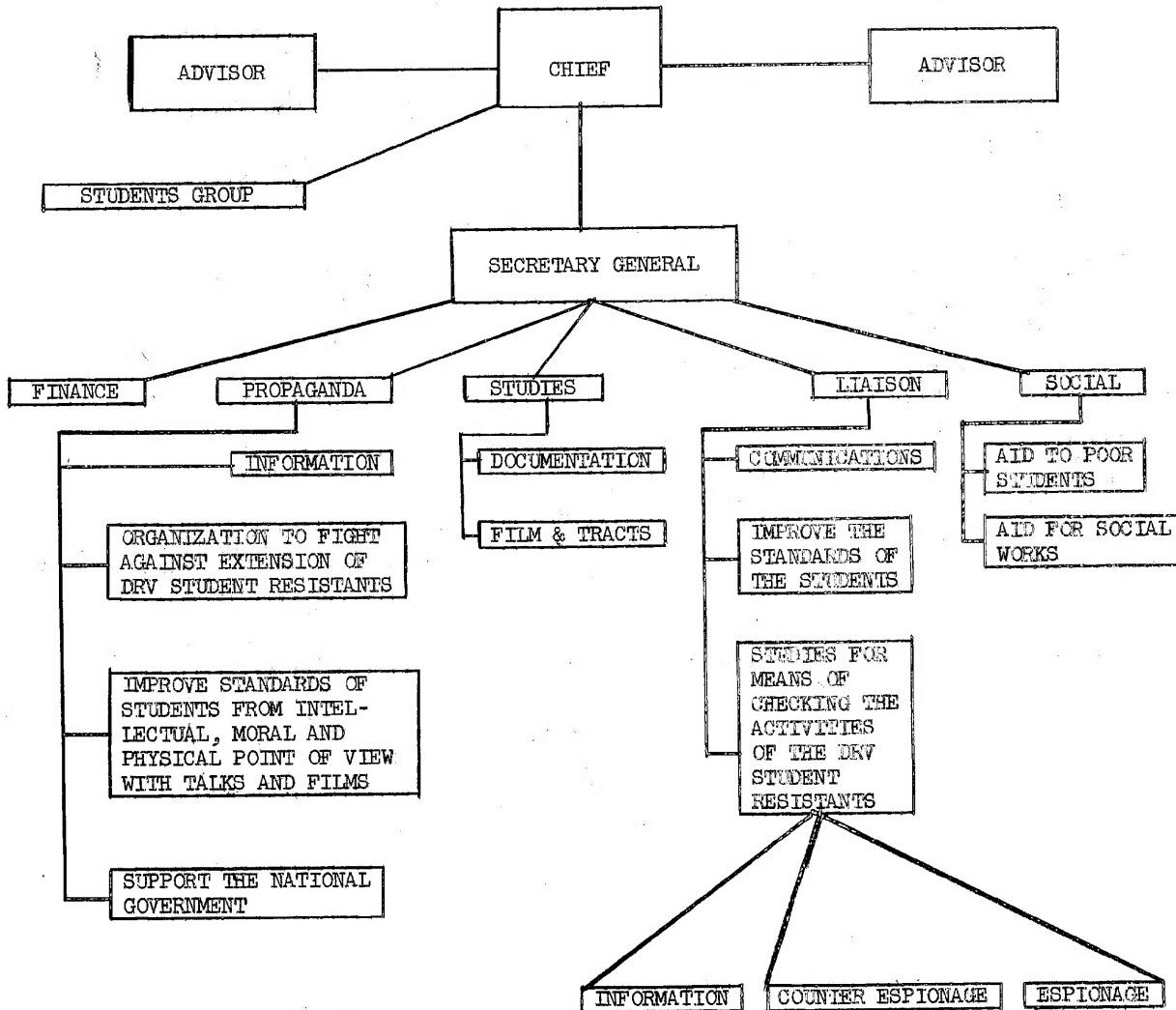
[redacted] Comment. The idea of creating organizations in scholastic circles is a good one. Attempts were made in 1949 and scholastic organizations were created with the name Hieu Doan. These groups were misrepresented at a later date, and failed to remain sufficiently dynamic to hold the interest of the students. At present, the organizations are directed by the school superintendents and the professors, without real participation by the students. The directors are arm-chair leaders (ronds-des-cuir) without real enthusiasm for this type of work. Cuong's project is nothing but a project for an espionage organization to work in scholastic circles. This explains Cuong's failure with the students, and the reactions of official services and the Association of Students' Parents.

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NATIONALIST STUDENTS' GROUP ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

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